PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOC.

Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS, COLORADO

AUGUST 1978

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MEETING NOTICE: The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will meet this month on August 9 at 7:30 pm at the Security Savings and Loan Association Building, East Platte at Union. Anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to attend. We will again have as our guest Mr. Baron Pittinger of the US Olympic Committee. Also come prepared to hear the results of the antenna measuring at the picnic. You've heard all the theory and seen it all on paper. Now you can see how they really act.

WOW, IT WORKED! The National Sports Festival Administrative Net--we pulled it off, and we did it well. The cooperative efforts of the Cheyenne Mountain Amateur Radio Club, Pueblo Ham Club, Pikes Peak FM Association, and Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association amateurs, along with many others (some coming from miles away), made the effort not only successful, but a real pleasure. All in all, approximately 100 amateurs took part in the four-and-one-half day event.

Several months of planning for the Festival took place and the end result was a radio network that brought amateur radio into high esteem with the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) officials, with thanks and praise to the highest degree.

Mr. Baron Pittinger, Special Events Chairman for the USOC, will be at the August 9th club meeting to make presentations and share with us the USOC's comments on our successful task. Special thanks go to Mr. Pittinger, Mr. Colbrunn, and the Special Events Committee of the USOC for their cooperation and excellent organization. Above all, thanks go to Frank Freiler WBØPAJ. Frank is the "father" of the Sports Festival Network.

Several committees were set up to plan the net. Scheduling the event included manning the events with operators which was done by Gordy WBØTIC and Bud WBØTIB. Net control operators for the hub of the system at the

FLASH--We interrupt this article to invite one and all to the club picnic (in case you haven't heard and happen to pick up your Zero Beat in time) on Sunday, August 6. More details inside, and I'm sorry my efforts to crank this issue out a bit sooner met with the ol brick wall deal.

Olympic Training Center (OTC) were scheduled by Doug WBØMHP. The technical committee planned the equipment requirements. Implementation of the technical requirements included designing and constructing a console for the net control station at the OTC. Ray AAØL's console (continued next page)

P P R A A D I R E C T O R S

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VICE-PRES.	Doug Moloney WBØMHP, 3817 Vaquero Cir So	599-9605
SECRETARY	Gordon Denno WBØTIC, 4718 El Camino	598-0408
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Board Member	Dick Cohen K6DBR, 4965 Brown Valley Lane	599-5645
Board Member	Dave Allen WBØTAQ, 821 N. Cascade	471-0642
Board Member	Mike Stansberry KØTER, 2732 E. Monument	475-8650
Board Member	Oak Stockton KØROL, 2023 Essex Lane	596-1395

ZERO BEAT is published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Assn Inc, Colorado Springs, CO. Permission is granted to reprint articles or excerpts provided full credit is given.

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The PPRAA meets at 7:30pm on the Second Wednesday of each month in the Security Savings and Loan Building, East Platte at Union Blvd.

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IT WORKED (Con'd) provided power for the two radios, which used AC and had automatic battery backup in case of power failure. The console also provided a means for both operators to monitor both frequencies simulaaneously as well as providing an interface to tape record all communications, both incoming and outgoing.

Oak KØROL was responsible for the antenna system at the OTC, while Mike KØTER and Doug WBØMHP took care of the fixed antennas at the USAFA. Dick WBØPNX took care of several antenna system installations here in the Colorado Springs area.

Bill WØES was the Pueblo Ham Club coordinator, being responsible for the excellent operation to the south. Dan WAØKXO and Tom WAØQQT were responsible for coordination of the Cheyenne Mountain Amateur Radio Club's efforts and made a significant contribution to the effort.

Pete WØVI and Keith KØYXC made a valuable contribution by not only providing the 16/76 machine, but also providing on-site technical support a couple of times during the event.

Last, but not least, sincere thanks to the amateurs doing the actual communicating. An excellent job of traffic handling, as well as superb net discipline, was the key to success. Another noteworthy reason for success was each amateur's efforts at being on time at their assigned place with adequate equipment to do the job properly.

So as we unwind from our busy weeks of planning and a hectic four days, Frank WBØPAJ, Ray AAØL, and myself want to thank everyone. Special thanks to Joy WBØMTA, who came from Guffey, and Paul WØQMR, who travelled from Dillon to help. Another special thanks to husbands, wives, and kids for their patience and support for all the time we spent on the Festival.

In the end, Amateur Radio has taken another great step forward.

TNX & 73s'
Doug WBØMHP

THE PPRAA regrets the passing of Chic Cotterell WØSIN, the ARRL Rocky Mtn Division Director, a good personal friend of our president, and a friend to all the hams in this part of the country.

If it's CW, it's communications.
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John WAØADV
CW
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ATTENTION FRIENDS and enemies of Bart Hayhurst WAØYOH. For those in either group wishing to write, he sends his address as Box 843, Sparta, NC 28675.

JULY MINUTES: The July meeting of the PPRAA was openned at 7:38 pm by President AAØL Ray Uberecken at the Security Savings and Loan Association. Membership and guest introductions followed. The minutes were approved by the membership present as printed in Zero Beat.

WBØPNX Dick Schlueter reported a treasury balance of $544.79. He paid bills from SERVCOM, Field Day, and two months of Zero Beat.

Committee Reports: SERVCOM--WBØTIB indicated the Simulated Emergency test came in number one in Colo. Unfinished business: none. New Business: A historical discussion of the club natology came up but no one had any data that was known to be accurate. Announcements: NØDV--Pikes Peak Motorcycle Enduro Sept 24. KØROL--Club picnic Aug 6 at his Saddle mountain cabin. AAØL Pikes Peak Marathon August 13, hams would be needed at the top, a-frame, Barr camp, French Creek, and the bottom. 800-900 runners expected. Starts 7 am in Manitou Springs. AAØL--Special call license plate applications are due September 15 in Denver for the 79 plates.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to discussing the communications networks, scheduling, and mechanics of the National Sports Festival. Mr. Barron Pittinger, the Sports Festival Director, was present. Meeting was adjourned at 10 pm.

Gordon Denno WBØTIC, Secretary

SPEAKING OF HAM CALL PLATES, the proceedure is this. Send a card to Colo Department of Revenue--Motor Vehicle Division, 140 W. 6th Ave, Denver CO 80204 asking for an application for special amateur call plates. Don't send any money or license then.

Then fill out the application and send it and $2 and a copy of your license (if they don't already have one on file) back to the same address. Then you can get them at the county clerks office (as usual) either by mail or in person, but if it's the first time you're getting them, you have to tell them you are getting ham plates, and tell them your call. You must be the titled owner or joint owner of the vehicle involved. "All applications will be checked for ownership of the vehicle." The application has to be back in by September 15.

ATTENTION HUNTERS! Transmitter hunters, that is. The next transmitter hunt takes place on Sunday, August 13. Everyone who wants to participate meet at Channel Cat, Templeton Gap and Academy, and be ready to go at 2 pm.

Those who don't have the proper equipment shouldn't dismay. Come down and hitch a ride with someone who does.

Doug WBØMHP

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IF YOU LIKE that mountain which overlooks us, or long distance foot-races, plan to be in on the Pikes Peak Marathon Augsut 13. They seem to have all the bases covered, but the more the merrier, as they usually camp out the night before and have a good time. Check for details at the club meeting.

BORED WITH WEDNESDAY EVENING TV? Don't forget the PPRAA 146.52 FM net. You need not be a member to check in. It's held every Wednesday except club meeting night, at 7 pm.

So check in and see what's new on 52!

Doug WBØMHP

FOR SALE: 20-15-10 meter boomless quad with poles (fiberglas) and "spider" to hold poles $90. 32-foot free-standing tower $75. Bob Purtzer WØMXL, 574-6443.

IF YOU CAN'T WAIT to buy some more crystals for the two meter rig, or the DC part of your rig will work on want to do some traveling and see if repeaters, here are some new ones in California. They're really getting busy on the lower half. 144.51/5.11, 144.55/5.15, 144.63/5.23, 144.73/5.33, 144.81/5.41, 144.47/5.87, 144.89/5.49. Whew. Wonder what AAØL and his dedicated VHF types say about that band being nothing but a repeater band. Well, I guess we need 'em, with about 80% (my guess) of ham activity on them.

"TO BE" OR "NOT TO BE"--A DUMMY LOAD! [or "Is your antenna an antenna or a dummy load?] In an attempt to find answers to the mysterious questions of "So it is true a dipole has 9dB gain over a rubber ducky?" or "Does my store-bought yagi really have the gain it's supposed to?" or "How much gain does my homebrew quagi have?" bring your 2 meter "whatever kind" antenna to the PPRAA picnic at Oak KØROL's Sunday, Aug 6 and find the answer.

Ray AAØL and Doug WBØMHP are setting up antenna gain measurements for any 2 meter antenna you would like measured. We're even going to attempt to measure a rubber ducky!

So if your "balun's busted" or your "boom's bent" do some repairs and bring those antennae. If possible arrange your beams so that they can be mounted vertically, if not bring them anyway.

See you there!

Doug WBØMHP

SPEAKING OF THE PICNIC, it's Aug 6 at Oak's in the mountains, directions next page. If you don't make it this year, same the directions for next year because I might not get them in time or get Zero Beat out in time. The club is furnishing beverages (kiddie and grown-up kinds), charcoal, so bring what you want to eat, things to throw or play with, and antennas.

220 MHz

"The most economical way to increase your power, they say, is to improve your antenna. A little Yagi is the easiest way to do this, and W9TAL shows how to make it even easier. All the arithmetic is done for you and the meterials are nothing exotic. No reason at all why this could not be made portable, with the elements snapping into fuse clips mounted on the boom, for example, when you're ready to take it out of the car trunk and put it up. Used at the base, it can be moved by the lightest rotator, or can simply be aimed at your favorite "far out" repeater."
(reprinted from 220 NOTES, June 1978.
reprinted in turn from QRZ, Denver)

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COME IN FOR A CUP OF COFFEE & CHAT!

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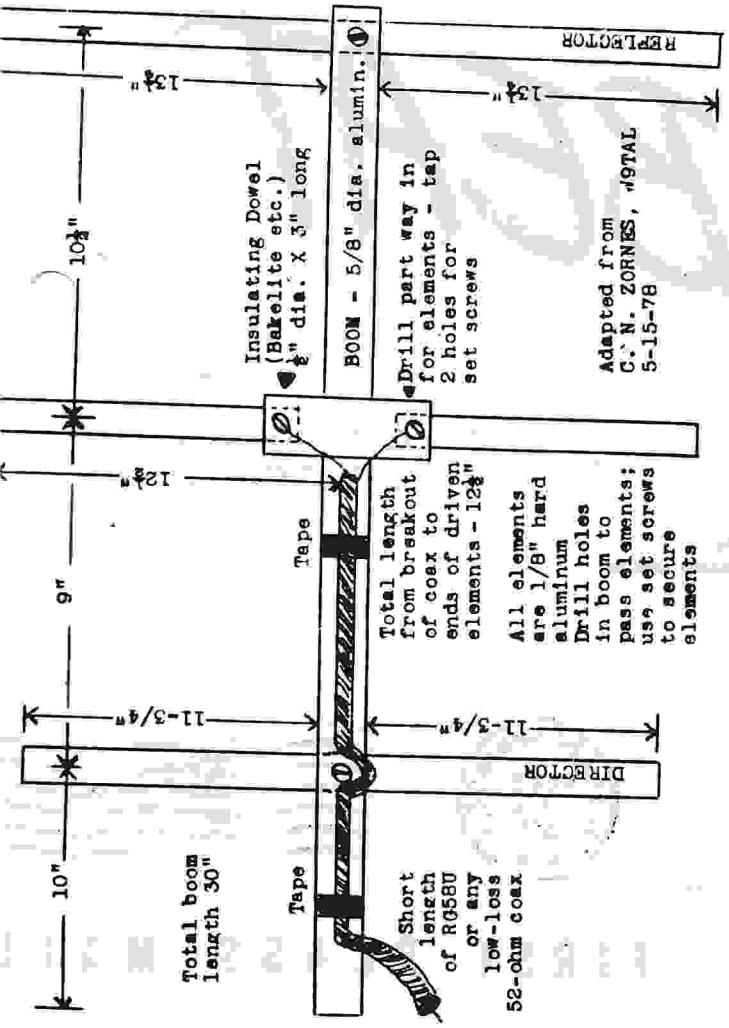

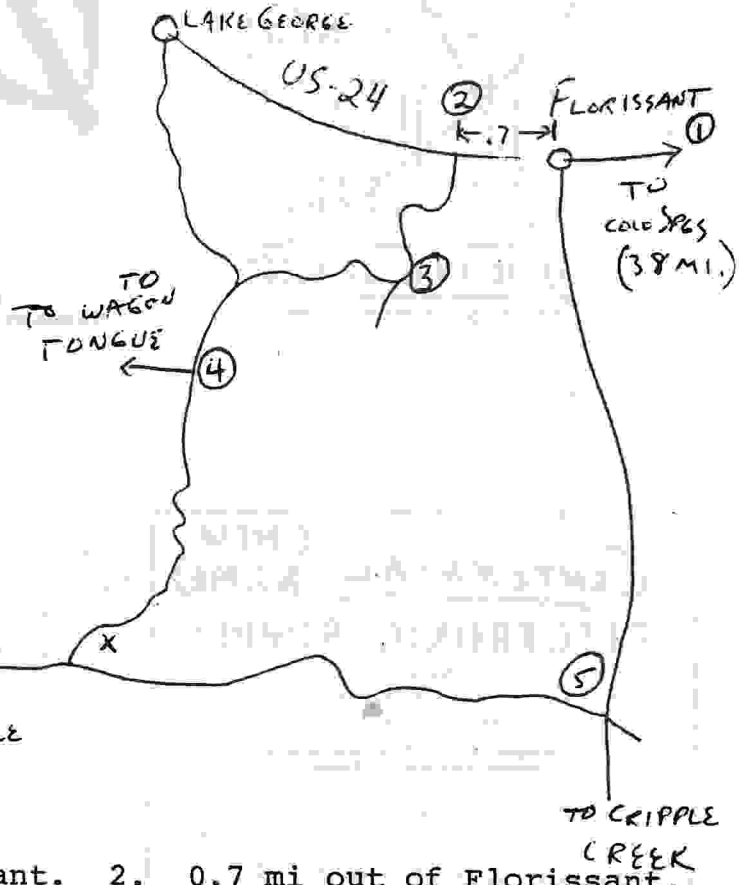

1. Take US 24 West up Ute Pass to Florissant. 2. 0.7 mi out of Florissant, turn left. 3. Sign "Blue Mtn Ranch"--take the right fork toward the ranch. 4. Sign "Slater Creek"--go in that direction as indicated on the sign. Look for Oak's tower and American flag before you hit the 11-mile res. road. 5. Another way to come is by taking the road to Cripple Creek out of Florissant and turning right on the road to 11-mile. It's longer but pretty.

I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION some people who helped with this issue. Doug MHP, as you can tell, contributed heavily, while putting aside time and projects of his own. Oak ROL came over. Mike TER did the addresses. George WHZ and Werner allowed me to be rude and kick them out. For me it has not been a week to remember. I think our paper is going well, and above are the reasons. Other papers I get on trade are not. They are having one-page issues, or none at all, for lack of material and interest. Editors tired of fighting for material are letting it drop and spending their time more wisely. No threats or warnings intended here. Just a reminder that this thing doesn't happen automatically, and a word of thanks to all who do make it happen. See y'all.

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AUGUST 1978

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